

- 1) The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The primary reason for allowance is that the cited prior art does not disclose a glass melting furnace of structural features and arrangement claimed, the furnace having an exhaust disposed within downstream end of the furnace, the exhaust disposed for allowing for additional heat to the melting glass material within the furnace (claims 1, 12, 15, 27, 29, 31).

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

- 2) Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark Halpern whose telephone no. is 571-272-1190.

/Mark Halpern/
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1791